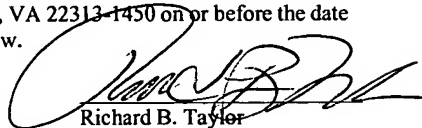


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below.

  
Richard B. Taylor

Date: May 9, 2005



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )

STEVEN E. BREWER; ZAIDA DIAZ; )  
JOSEPH B. POWELL; PAUL R. WEIDER; )  
GLENN C. KOMPLIN; and )  
ROBERT L. BLACKBURN )

Serial No.: 10/676,690 )

Filed: October 1, 2003 )

METHOD FOR REMOVAL OF MW176 )  
CYCLIC ACETAL FORMED DURING )  
THE PRODUCTION OF 1,3-PROPANEDIOL )

Group Art Unit: 1621

Examiner: Elvis O. Price

May 9, 2005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE UNDER 37 CFR §1.251**

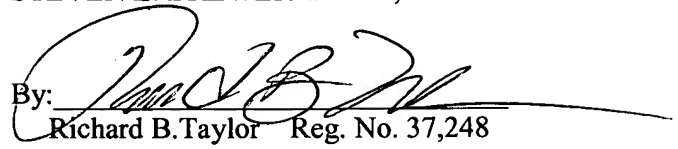
This Response is responsive to the Notice Under 37 CFR §1.251 of April 18, 2005 relative to the application identified above. The requested foreign references dated 5/03/04 are attached—specifically an English abstract of EP0983985, and WO 00/14041.

Respectfully submitted,

STEVEN E. BREWER ET AL.,

Date: May 9, 2005

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. B. Taylor", written over a horizontal line.

Richard B. Taylor Reg. No. 37,248

Shell Oil Company

P.O. Box 2463

Houston, TX 77252-2463

(713) 241-3558

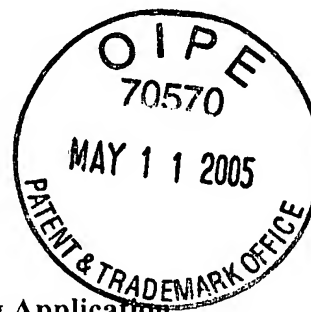
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Approved for use through 07/31/2006.OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

In re Application of: BREWER, STEPHEN EDWARD et al.  
Application No.: 10676690  
Filing Date: 10/01/03  
Title: METHOD FOR REMOVAL OF MW176 CYCLIC ACETAL  
FORMED DURING THE PRODUCTION OF 1,3-PROPANEDIOL

Direct to: U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Mail Stop: Duplicates  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



**NOTICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.251 – Pending Application**

Statement (check the appropriate box):

☐ The copy submitted with this reply is a complete and accurate copy of applicant's record of all of the correspondence between the Office and the applicant for the above-identified application (except for U.S. patent documents), and applicant is not aware of any correspondence between the Office and applicant for the above-identified application that is not among applicant's records.

☒ The copy of the paper(s) listed in the notice under 37 CFR 1.251 is/are a complete and accurate copy of applicant's record of such paper(s).

☐ The papers produced by applicant are applicant's complete record of all of the correspondence between the Office and the applicant for the above-identified application (except for U.S. patent documents), and applicant is not aware of any correspondence between the Office and the applicant for the above-identified application that is not among applicant's records.

☐ Applicant does not possess any record of the correspondence between the Office and the applicant for the above identified application.

May 6, 2005  
Date

[Signature]  
Signature

Richard B. Taylor Reg. No. 37,248  
Typed or printed name

**A Copy of this notice should be returned with the reply.**

Burden Hour Statement: This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.251. The information is used by the public to reply to a request for copies of correspondence between the applicant and the USPTO in order to reconstruct an application file. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This form is estimated to take 60 minutes to complete. This time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.